

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

5A  
8/22/01

In the application of: Henry Guy Stevens  
United States National Phase  
Application corresponding to  
PCT/GB99/02822

For: : PVA-Containing Compositions

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Upon the granting of a serial number and filing date  
for the above application, please amend the application as  
follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-34 and substitute new claims 35-  
64 as follows:

A' 35. A polymer feedstock in the form of a cold-pressed tablet or  
pellet for use in extrusion of an extruded product containing  
PVA, the cold-pressed tablet or pellet comprising a blend of PVA  
and up to 5% lubricant by weight to render the blend extrudable.

36. A polymer feedstock according to claim 35 wherein the  
lubricant comprises a fatty acid amide.

37. A polymer feedstock according to claim 36 wherein the fatty  
acid amide is a straight or branched C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> fatty acid amide.